

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/506,671
Amendment filed June 8, 2007
Reply to OA dated March 8, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 2 line 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

An object of the present invention is to provide a pipe joint wherein the portions to be brought into contact with a fluid are made of a synthetic resin and which retains the ability to prevent fluid leaks despite the lapse of time.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 9 line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the pipe joint according to each of the features of the invention, each of the joint members may be provided at the abutting end face thereof with a flange portion, the screw means comprising an annular male screw member having a forward end face in bearing contact with the flange portion of one of the joint members, and a cap nut fitted around the other joint member and having a top wall in bearing contact with the flange portion of said other joint member, the cap nut being screwed on the male screw member. The male screw member and the cap nut which are held out of contact with the fluid flowing through the joint members, may therefore be made of a metal or can of course be made of a synthetic resin. The flange portions of the joint members are pressed axially inward by tightening up the cap nut on the male screw member, whereby the two joint members are joined fluid-tightly.

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Replace the paragraph beginning on page 12 line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary view in longitudinal section of ~~the same~~ Figure 3.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 16 line 17 with the following rewritten paragraph:

With reference to FIG. 2(b) showing the pipe joint 1 as properly tightened up, the gasket 4 and the ridge 8 of the second joint member 3 are entirely fitted in the recessed portion 7 of the first joint member 2, the outer surface of the ridge 8 of the second joint member 3 is pressed against the inner surface of the recessed portion 7 of the first joint member 2 with the gasket 4 interposed therebetween while holding intimate contact with one another approximately over the entire opposed surfaces, the radially inward portion 2d of the first joint member abutting end face is in intimate contact with the radial inward portion 3d of the second joint member abutting end face approximately over the entire opposed faces thereof, and the radial inward portion 2e of the first joint member abutting end face is also in intimate contact with the radially inward portion 3e of the second joint member abutting end face approximately over the entire opposed faces thereof.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 20 line 9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

When the pipe joint 11 is properly tightened up as further tightened from the state of FIG.

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4, the ridge 18 of the second joint member 13 is entirely fitted in the recessed portion 17 of the first joint member 12, the outer surface of the ridge 18 of the second joint member 13 is in intimate contact with the inner surface of the recessed portion 17 of the first joint member 12 approximately over the entire areas of the surfaces, the portion 12d of the abutting end face of the first joint member 12 which is positioned radially inwardly of the recessed portion 17 is in intimate contact with the portion 13d of the abutting end face of the second joint member 13 which is positioned radially inwardly of the ridge 18 approximately over the entire opposed faces thereof, and the portion 12e of the abutting end face of the first joint member 12 which is positioned radially outward of the recessed portion 17 is also in intimate contact with the portion 13e of abutting end face of the second joint member 13 which is positioned radially outward of the ridge 18 approximately over the entire opposed faces thereof.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 21 line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 5 shows a first embodiment of a pipe joint according to a third feature of the invention. With reference to FIG. 5, the pipe joint 21 comprises a first tubular joint member 22 of synthetic resin, a second tubular joint member 23 of synthetic resin, a synthetic resin annular gasket 24 having a rectangular cross section and interposed between abutting portions of the two joint members 22, 23, an annular male screw member 5 fitted around the second joint member 23, and a cap nut 6 fitted around the first joint member 22 and screwed on the male screw member 5.

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Replace the paragraph beginning on page 26 line 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 6 shows a second embodiment of a pipe joint according to the third feature of the invention. With reference to FIG. 6, the pipe joint 31 comprises a first tubular joint member 32 of synthetic resin, a second tubular joint member 33 of synthetic resin, a synthetic resin annular gasket 34 having a rectangular cross section and interposed between abutting portions of the two joint members 32, 33, an annular male screw member 5 fitted around the second joint member 33, and a cap nut 6 fitted around the first joint member 32 and screwed on the male screw member 5.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 30 line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 7 shows a third embodiment of a pipe joint according to the third feature of the invention. With reference to FIG. 7, the pipe joint 41 comprises a first tubular joint member 42 of synthetic resin, a second tubular joint member 43 of synthetic resin, a synthetic resin annular gasket 44 having a rectangular cross section and interposed between abutting portions of the two joint members 42, 43, an annular male screw member 5 fitted around the second joint member 43, and a cap nut 6 fitted around the first joint member 42 and screwed on the male screw member 5.

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Replace the paragraph beginning on page 35 line 19 with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 8 shows another embodiment of a pipe joint according to the first feature of the invention. With reference to FIG. 8, the pipe joint 51 comprises a first tubular joint member 52 of synthetic resin, a second tubular joint member 53 of synthetic resin, a synthetic resin annular gasket 54 having a rectangular cross section and interposed between abutting portions of the two joint members 52, 53, an annular male screw member 55 fitted around the second joint member 53, and a cap nut 56 fitted around the first joint member 52 and screwed on the male screw member 55.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 40 line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 9 shows another embodiment of a pipe joint according to the first feature of the invention. With reference to FIG. 9, the pipe joint 61 comprises a first tubular joint member 62 of synthetic resin, a second tubular joint member 63 of synthetic resin, a synthetic resin annular gasket 64 having a rectangular cross section and interposed between abutting portions of the two joint members 62, 63, an annular male screw member 55 fitted around the second joint member 63, and a cap nut 56 fitted around the first joint member 62 and screwed on the male screw member 55.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 46 line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 10 shows another embodiment of a pipe joint according to the first feature of the invention. With reference to FIG. 10, the pipe joint 1 comprises a first tubular joint member 2 of synthetic resin, a second tubular joint member 3 of synthetic resin, a synthetic resin annular gasket 4 having a rectangular cross section and interposed between abutting portions of the two joint members 2, 3, an annular male screw member 5 fitted around the second joint member 3, a cap nut 6 fitted around the first joint member 2 and screwed on the male screw member 5 and a synthetic resin thrust ring 9 disposed between the inner surface of top wall 6a of the cap nut 6 and the flange portion 2c of the first joint member 2.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 46 line 17 with the following rewritten paragraph:

This embodiment differs from the first embodiment solely in that the thrust ring 9 is provided in the former. Thus, throughout FIGS. 1, 2 and 10, like parts are designated by like reference numerals and will not be described repeatedly. Incidentally, FIG. 10 is a view which corresponds to FIG. 2(a) and shows the cap nut 6 as manually tightened up on the male screw member 5.

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